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much space to ethnology. This is a side of geography that has been especially developed during the last two decades, and now for the first time is it possible for a comprehensive Dictionary of Geography to give anthropo-geography its proper rank. This anthropological side of geography is, however, not unduly emphasized in this latest and most exhaustive work, but merely given its proper place among other phases of the general subject. The treatment given to Africa in the Supplement would make a volume of 200 pages, 350 words to the page. The bibliography is carried out in an even more comprehensive manner in the Supplement than in the main body of the work.

It is most difficult to measure adequately the value and importance of such a great work as this "*Nouveau Dictionnaire de Géographie Universelle*." While its greatest service will be rendered to French scholars, because the work is in French and the bibliographical references to French works are more complete than the references to foreign works; still the work has been done in such a cosmopolitan manner that it will be hardly less useful to foreigners. Being published in the French language, it can be read by the scholars of every country. No one, of course, will expect to find, even in a dictionary of this size, an exhaustive treatment of special questions; but students of every phase of geography will find within the pages of this great work such a treatment as they will desire, unless their purpose be that of making a special and detailed study of certain topics. This dictionary supplemented by a comprehensive well-indexed atlas, will equip a library with a very satisfactory storehouse of geographical information. To criticise a work of this kind in detail is impossible. The general plan of the work is admirable, and it has been well executed. Editors, collaborators, publishers, and the public are each to be congratulated upon the completion of this comprehensive geographical treatise.

EMORY R. JOHNSON.

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*Social Rights and Duties.* By LESLIE STEPHEN. Two vols. Pp. 255, 267. Price, \$3.00. New York: Macmillan & Co.

Made up chiefly of addresses delivered before the Ethical Societies of London, these volumes touch a variety of subjects, sometimes in an occasional way, often more seriously, but always suggestively. The greater number of the essays are ethical in their interest, viewing from an ethical standpoint the problems of competition and the struggle for existence, heredity, luxury and punishment. That on the "Sphere of Political Economy" presents a sweeping criticism of recent tendencies in economics. Mr. Stephen's idea is that the purpose of the science is to determine the play of economic forces in society. The

questions for it to answer are: What are the conditions of industrial equilibrium, and what measures are necessary to restore it when disturbed? Having limited the field in this way, he goes on to show that psychological considerations are of little use, and that mathematical formulæ are meaningless. Any formula which attempts to account for all the economic forces must be a function of so many variables as to be worthless; one which omits any forces for simplicity's sake must be inaccurate. But if the mathematical method fails, economics must become a part of sociology, or limit itself to statistical inquiry. As for the classical economists their systems furnished no general laws, but went to make up the prolegomena to the as yet unconstituted science of sociology.

While we may not feel disposed to agree with Mr. Stephen's conclusions as to the field of economics, it is interesting to note his opinions on one or two other recent discussions. He is not one of those who see in Mr. Kidd's "Social Evolution" the maker of a new epoch in thought. Mr. Kidd, he says, maintains that a little stupidity is a very good thing; that progress depends on the possession of ultra-rational, or perhaps irrational beliefs. The Greeks were more intellectual than ourselves; yet they died out. But Mr. Stephen objects to this argument. Are we to include among the Greeks any of the stupid Bœotians or the slaves? There is not enough known about them to warrant such a generalization. Even admitting for a moment that they had a greater proportion of great men, it is not proved that the average was higher. Neither is it justifiable to say that the Greeks perished because of defective altruism. The Romans were certainly no better endowed, yet they overpowered the Greeks. It is impossible to divine the causes of the success or decay of a race from any such sweeping generalizations about ill-defined qualities. Mr. Kidd does not take into account the influence of the Greek environment. He states his facts so vaguely as to leave no distinct problem before the reader. And the book is a good illustration of the results that come from rashly applying somewhat doubtful formulæ to new and complex questions. The greater part of Mr. Stephen's essay on "Heredity" is taken up with a discussion of other weak points in the book.

Among the other essays should be noted that on the "Vanity of Philosophizing," in which Mr. Balfour's "Foundations of Belief" passes under review. This book, it would seem, does not yield so easily to attack, for the criticism is hardly as satisfactory as the last.

The volumes as a whole contain ideas which are well presented, timely and worthy of attention.

W. H. SCHOFF.

*Philadelphia.*